

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

- 1.-26. (Canceled)
27. (Previously Presented) A gas burner for a fireplace, comprising:
a burner panel defining a top surface and a bottom surface;
a bottom burner member coupled to the burner panel;
wherein the burner panel defines at least one aperture to provide a combustible gas to the top surface of the burner panel; and
wherein the burner panel substantially comprises a compression molded material.
28. (Previously Presented) The gas burner of claim 27, wherein the compression molded material comprises an inorganic fiber.
29. (Previously Presented) The gas burner of claim 28, wherein the compression molded material further comprises a binder.
30. (Currently Amended) A fireplace comprising:
a combustion chamber enclosure defining a combustion chamber;
a gas burner coupled to the combustion chamber for the combustion of a combustible gas;
the gas burner comprising:
a compression molded burner panel defining a top surface and a bottom surface;
a bottom burner member coupled to the burner panel;
wherein the burner panel defines at least one aperture to provide the combustible gas to the top surface of the burner panel;
wherein the burner panel comprises a portion of a bottom panel of the fireplace.

31. (Currently Amended) The gas burner of claim 30, wherein the compression molded ~~material~~ burner panel comprises an inorganic fiber.

32. (Currently Amended) The gas burner of claim 31, wherein the compression molded ~~material~~ burner panel further comprises a binder.

33. (Previously Presented) A gas burner for a fireplace, comprising:
a burner panel defining a top surface and a bottom surface, wherein the burner panel is molded to form at least one preformed log;
a bottom burner member coupled to the burner panel;
wherein the burner panel defines at least one aperture to provide a combustible gas to the top surface of the burner panel;
wherein the bottom surface of the burner panel and bottom member define at least one cavity;
wherein the at least one preformed log defines at least a portion of the at least one cavity;
wherein the at least one cavity extends above at least a portion of the top surface of the burner panel; and
wherein the burner panel substantially comprises a compression molded material.

34. (Previously Presented) The gas burner of claim 33, wherein bottom surface of the burner panel defines two or more cavities.

35. (Previously Presented) The gas burner of claim 33, wherein the burner panel defines a plurality of apertures to provide a gas/air mixture to the top surface of the burner panel.

36. (Previously Presented) A gas burner for a fireplace, comprising:
a burner panel defining a top surface and a bottom surface;
a bottom burner member coupled to the burner panel;
wherein the burner panel defines at least one aperture to provide a combustible gas to the top surface of the burner panel;
wherein the burner panel substantially comprises a compression molded material; and

wherein the burner panel comprises a bottom panel of a combustion chamber enclosure.

37. (Previously Presented) The gas burner of claim 36, wherein the compression molded material comprises an inorganic fiber.

38. (Previously Presented) The gas burner of claim 37, wherein the compression molded material further comprises a binder.

39. (Previously Presented) The gas burner of claim 36, wherein the bottom burner member comprises a pan.

40. (Previously Presented) The gas burner of claim 36, wherein the bottom burner member comprises a metal pan.

41. (Previously Presented) The gas burner of claim 36, wherein the bottom burner member comprises a plate.

42. (Previously Presented) The gas burner of claim 36, wherein the bottom burner member comprises a metal plate.

43. (Previously Presented) The gas burner of claim 36, wherein the bottom burner member is recessed within the bottom surface of the burner panel.

44. (Previously Presented) The gas burner of claim 36, wherein the burner panel defines a plurality of apertures to provide a combustible gas to the top surface of the burner panel.

45. (Previously Presented) The gas burner of claim 36, wherein the bottom burner member and at least a portion of the bottom surface of the burner panel defines a reservoir to provide a combustible gas to the at least one aperture.

46. (Previously Presented) A gas burner for a fireplace, comprising:
a burner panel defining a top surface and a bottom surface, wherein the top surface has a raised upper portion and a lower portion;
a bottom burner member coupled to the burner panel;
wherein the burner panel defines at least one aperture to provide a combustible gas to the top surface of the burner panel;
wherein the bottom surface of the burner panel and the bottom burner panel together define at least one cavity;
wherein the at least one cavity extends above the lower portion of the top surface of the burner panel; and
wherein the raised upper portion of the top surface extends above the lower portion.

47. (Previously Presented) The gas burner of claim 46, wherein the burner panel defines a plurality of apertures to provide a combustible gas to the top surface of the burner panel.

48. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a gas burner for use in a fireplace, comprising:
forming a compression molded burner panel; and
coupling a bottom burner member to the burner panel.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 48, wherein the compression molded burner panel comprises an inorganic fiber.

50. (Previously Presented) The gas burner of claim 49, wherein the compression molded material further comprises a binder.

51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 48, wherein the step of forming the compression molded burner panel further comprises the step of forming at least one cavity in the bottom surface of the burner panel, wherein the at least one cavity extends above at least a portion of the top surface.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 48, wherein the step of forming the compression molded burner panel comprises the step of forming a prefabricated log in at least a portion of the burner panel.

53. (Previously Presented) A method for forming a panel for use in a gas fireplace burner, the method comprising the steps of:

- providing a mold;
- providing an inorganic fiber to the mold;
- compressing the inorganic fiber within the mold; and
- heating the mold during compression.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein the step of compressing the inorganic fiber further comprises the step of forming at least one cavity in the bottom surface of the panel, wherein the at least one cavity extends above at least a portion of a top surface of the panel.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein the step of providing the inorganic fiber to the mold further comprises the step of forming a prefabricated log in at least a portion of the panel.

56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein the step of providing the inorganic fiber to the mold comprises providing the inorganic fiber to a mold cavity.

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, wherein the step of providing a mold comprises providing a male die and a female die, the male die and the female die defining a mold cavity.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53, further comprising the step of providing a binder to the mold.

59. (Previously Presented) A method of assembling a prefabricated fireplace, comprising:

providing a combustion chamber enclosure having a burner panel as a portion of a bottom panel of the combustion chamber enclosure, the burner panel comprising a compression molded material; and

providing an outer enclosure surrounding the combustion chamber enclosure.